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Norwich to Tilbury

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District Council

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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (referred to as National Grid within this document) and South Norfolk District Council (SNDC). It identifies areas of the Norwich to Tilbury project (the 'Project') within the Development Consent Order (DCO) application (the Application) where matters are agreed, under discussion or not agreed between the parties.
- 1.1.2 This SoCG has been structured to reflect topics of the Application which are relevant to SNDC. The applicable matters considered within this SoCG apply to SNDC's statutory remit. The following bullet points present the topics included in this SoCG (they are also presented in Section 3):
- Project development, description and design
 - Ecology and Biodiversity
 - Air Quality
 - Noise and Vibration
 - Health and Wellbeing
 - Historic Environment
 - Landscape and Visual
 - Socioeconomics, Recreation and Tourism
 - Cumulative Effects
 - Development Consent Order Other Matters

Note: This draft SoCG has been prepared at an early phase of the DCO process, ahead of submission. It is intended to be a live and working document which will be updated as the Project progresses and shared with South Norfolk District Council at key points for discussion. A final SoCG will be prepared ahead of the close of the DCO Examination. Unlike a final SoCG, this draft SoCG has not been officially signed by either party.

1.2 Project Description

- 1.2.1 The Project is a proposal by National Grid to upgrade the electricity transmission system in East Anglia between Norwich and Tilbury, comprising:
- A new 400 kilovolt (kV) electricity transmission connection of approximately 180 km overall length from Norwich Main Substation to Tilbury Substation via Bramford Substation, a new East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) Substation and a new Tilbury North Substation, including:

- Approximately 159 km of new overhead line supported on approximately 509 pylons, either standard steel lattice pylons (approximately 50 m in height) or low height steel lattice pylons (approximately 40 m in height) and some of which would be gantries (typically up to 15 m in height) within proposed Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds or existing or proposed substations
- Approximately 21 km of 400 kV underground cabling, some of which would be located through the Dedham Vale National Landscape (an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB1))
- Up to seven new CSE compounds (with permanent access) to connect the overhead lines to the underground cables
- Modification works to connect into the existing Norwich Main Substation and a substation extension at the existing Bramford Substation
- A new 400 kV substation on the Tendring Peninsula, referred to as the EACN Substation (with a new permanent access). This is proposed to be an Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) substation
- A new 400 kV substation to the south of Orsett Golf Course in Essex, referred to as the Tilbury North Substation (with a new permanent access). This is proposed to be a Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation
- Modifications to the existing National Grid Electricity Transmission overhead lines to facilitate the connection of the existing network into the new Tilbury North Substation to provide connection to the Tilbury Substation
- Ancillary and/or temporary works associated with the construction of the Project.

1.2.2 In addition, third party utilities diversions and/or modifications would be required to facilitate the construction of the Project. There would also be land required for environmental mitigation and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).

1.2.3 As well as the permanent infrastructure, land would also be required temporarily for construction activities including, for example, working areas for construction equipment and machinery, site offices, welfare, storage and temporary construction access.

1.2.4 The Project would be designed, constructed and operated in accordance with applicable health and safety legislation. The Project will need to comply with design safety standards including the Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS), which sets out the criteria and methodology for planning and operating the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS). This informs a suite of National Grid policies and processes, which contain details on design standards required to be met when designing, constructing and operating assets such as those proposed for the Project.

1.3 Format and Structure of this Document

1.3.1 This SoCG is structured as follows:

- **Section 2** provides a summary of the key engagement undertaken to date with SNDC
- **Section 3** summarises the key matters and captures the status of each issue / matter

- **Section 4** includes the sign off sheet

2. Record of Key Engagement

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 National Grid has engaged with SNDC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:
- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
 - Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
 - Targeted Consultations in Spring 2025
 - Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
 - Regular ‘Thematic Group’ meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
 - One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
 - Sharing of papers and draft documentation at key stages
- 2.1.2 Further details on National Grid’s engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

2.2 Summary of Key Engagement

- 2.2.1 Table 2.1 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and SNDC.

Table 2.1 Summary of key engagement between National Grid and SNDC

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2023 - Ongoing	Meeting	SNDC monthly informal catch-up meetings and ad hoc as required.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Meeting	Discussions regarding the Waveney Valley and the Waveney Valley Alternative.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for statutory consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Works In, Over and Under Watercourses technical note.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (Outline CoCP) and draft Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (Outline LEMP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2 nd iterations of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop

Date	Format	Topic/Description
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Statement of Common Ground for comment.
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated draft OCoCP and OLEMP for comment.
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued Appendix D to the OLEMP - Outline Landscape Proposals
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued Appendix H to the OCoCP – Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy.
Ecology and Biodiversity		
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including SNDC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the BNG Strategy to stakeholders including SNDC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments on the BNG report.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2 nd iteration of the Outline LEMP
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments on the 2 nd iteration of proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the EIA Assessment, including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting – aim was to seek agreement on the Historic Environment Methodology with respect to study area and assessment approach.
February 2025	Technical Note	National grid shared the Historic Environment Viewpoint documents and shapefiles
February 2025	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Viewpoint Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoints
February 2025	Technical Note	National Grid shared the draft Historic Environment Baseline Report
February 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss the Heritage Baseline Report.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including SNDC.
April	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	Thematic Group meeting – proposed viewpoint locations - Norfolk
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023	Meeting	EIA viewpoints meeting - Norfolk
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with SNDC and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to discuss viewpoints – Norfolk.
October 2024	Meeting	Focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated viewpoint information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
December 2024	Meeting	Methodology and VP discussion with Norfolk County Council and South Norfolk District Council.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
March 2025	Technical Note	National Grid issued the 3 rd Socio-economics Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.

3. Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 This chapter details the matters relevant to SNDC which have been agreed, not agreed or are under discussion between the parties. Matters are arranged by topic (using broad headings, or EIA chapter headings where appropriate) and each matter is given a unique reference number to aid identification.
- 3.1.2 The red, amber, green status shows the level of agreement with SNDC. Descriptions of the different levels are summarised in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Agreement status for matters presented in Section 3

Status	Description
Not Agreed	Indicates a final position, where it has not been possible to resolve the issue to the agreement of both parties and there remains a difference of opinion.
Under Discussion	Indicates where issues are the subject of active on-going discussion.
Agreed	Indicates where an issue has been agreed or resolved satisfactorily to the agreement of both parties.

- 3.1.3 Engagement will continue as the Project develops and progresses through the various stages of the DCO process.
- 3.1.4 Sections that remain highlighted in yellow within these tables show points where both parties will seek to discuss and where possible agree a position in due course. The parties have been unable to do so at this stage because the relevant information is still being authored ahead of submission of the DCO application. These points will be the subject of ongoing discussion with stakeholders once the Environmental Statement and other relevant documentation is published.
- 3.1.5 Table 3.2 to Table 3.11 provides the matters agreed, not agreed or under discussion in relation to the various topics.

3.2 Project Development, Description and Design

Table 3.2 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to project development, description and design matters

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
Strategic options/needs case				
3.2.1	Needs case	<p>Norwich to Tilbury is being proposed because the existing network in East Anglia doesn't have sufficient capacity to manage the expected (and in some cases, contracted) increase in offshore wind farms (and interconnectors) needing to connect to the grid as part of the Government's target of reaching net zero by 2050. The project sits alongside other work to reinforce and upgrade the existing network in East Anglia.</p> <p>Norwich to Tilbury is listed as a key project in Appendix 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report.</p>	<p>SNDC Response to Statutory Consultation (26/07/2024):</p> <p>South Norfolk District Council recognises the need for increased capacity to the existing electricity transmission networks across the Eastern Region in order to cope with the additional new energy generation from offshore windfarms, nuclear power and interconnection with other countries and particularly the significant amount of energy generation above current capacity connecting into Norwich Main and Necton. The Council equally understands that the project would assist in meeting the UK's energy ambition to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 and the Governments Clean Energy target of 2030</p>	Agreed
3.2.2	Project timing	Timing for the project is driven by the needs case – when offshore wind farms	SNDC Response to Statutory Consultation (26/07/2024):	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
		<p>are contracted to connect to the UK network – the first of which are contracted to connect in 2030. National Grid is legally obliged (under our Transmission Owner License) to provide capacity at the dates formally agreed in contracts with energy generators (or customers) by NESO.</p> <p>Appendix 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report shows that the constraint costs associated with a delay to the project timing as being between £2.7 and £2.8 billion.</p>	<p>Following the Independent Review commissioned by Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex County Council's which suggested that the delivery is not needed until 2035, we also have concerns regarding the timing of the proposal.</p>	
3.2.3	Onshore route	<p>An onshore route allows for greater energy capacity and connectivity to feed into the grid. In assessing offshore options to deliver the same capacity as an onshore overhead line, we would need to build three subsea cables and associated infrastructure, which would add significant cost and not meet the needs case for Norwich to Tilbury.</p> <p>Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents</p> <p>published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial implications for alternative routes, including offshore alternatives.</p>	<p>SNDC Response to Statutory Consultation (26/07/2024):</p> <p>SNDC consider that a coordinated, Offshore approach would be our preferred solution, to minimise onshore infrastructure. If this is proven to be undeliverable then the Council considers that support should be given to the Undergrounding the whole route.</p>	Under discussion
3.2.4	Predominantly overhead line route	<p>Norwich to Tilbury has been designed in line with policy statement EN-5 (which covers the development of new energy</p>	<p>SNDC Response to Statutory Consultation (26/07/2024):</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
		<p>infrastructure) which concludes that in most cases, the government expects that overhead lines will be appropriate and should be used as standard to reinforce the grid.</p> <p>Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial implications for alternative routes, including underground alternatives.</p> <p>The work undertaken shows that undergrounding, including using HVDC cables, would be significantly more expensive and have environmental impacts and present engineering challenges. Due to the higher price that would be involved in an underground alternative, we do not believe that this would be the most suitable option as all costs ultimately go onto domestic energy bills.</p>	<p>SNDC consider that a coordinated, Offshore approach would be our preferred solution, to minimise onshore infrastructure. If this is proven to be undeliverable then the Council considers that support should be given to the Undergrounding the whole route.</p>	
Project development process - Design				
3.2.5	Waveney Valley	<p>At statutory consultation in 2024, National Grid presented proposals for an overhead line across the Waveney Valley, along with an underground cable alternative for community and stakeholder feedback. After considering feedback, and the findings of our ground investigation (GI) and environmental surveys, the decision was made to</p>	<p>SNDC Response to Targeted Consultations (03/03/2025):</p> <p>South Norfolk District Council wishes to express its significant disappointment at National Grid's decision to not pursue the undergrounding.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
		<p>proceed with an overhead line in this area. This decision considered a range of factors, including potential environmental impacts, planning policy, cost to consumers and alternate installation techniques for underground cables in response to GI surveys and the Waveney and Little Ouse Recovery project.</p> <p>Mitigation, including landscape enhancement, will be discussed in relevant thematic group meetings with National Grid's EIA team and South Norfolk's topic specialists.</p>	<p>South Norfolk District Council is of the view that there is a need to mitigate and offset the impacts of the scheme through the Waveney Valley, given that it meets, in principle, the criteria of NPS EN5 para 2.11.6. We considered that a scheme of landscape enhancement, should be used to offset (at least partially) the residual adverse impacts of the overhead lines that are now confirmed as being proposed for the Waveney Valley.</p>	
Project development process - Consultation				
3.2.6	2022 non-statutory consultation	<p>Non-statutory consultation took place between 21 April 2022 – 16 June 2022. Details of this consultation are outlined in the Consultation Strategy, and responses to feedback received during consultation are included in the Feedback Report.</p> <p>The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.</p>		Under discussion
3.2.7	2023 non-statutory consultation	<p>Non-statutory consultation took place between 27 June 2023 – 21 August 2023. Details of this consultation are outlined in the Consultation Strategy, and responses to feedback received during consultation are included in the Feedback Report.</p>		Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
		The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.		
3.2.8	2024 statutory consultation	<p>Statutory Consultation took place from Wednesday 10 April 2024 to 26 July 2024 (the end date was extended from 18 June 2024 due to the general election.) Details of this consultation are outlined in the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). Responses to feedback received during statutory consultation will be made available at DCO submission within the Consultation Feedback Report.</p> <p>The statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published SoCC.</p>		Under discussion
3.2.9	2025 targeted consultation	<p>Targeted consultations for Norfolk took place from 30 January 2025 – 3 March 2025. Details of these consultations are outlined in the Targeted Consultation Strategy and associated targeted consultation leaflets and environmental implications of change documents. Responses to feedback received during targeted consultation will be made available at DCO submission within the Consultation Feedback Report.</p> <p>The targeted consultations were undertaken in accordance with the published Targeted Consultation Strategy.</p>		Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
		The approach to targeted consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance: Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024).		
Other matters as required				
3.2.10	Community Benefits	In March 2025 the government announced guidance for delivering community benefit packages for communities hosting new, onshore transmission infrastructure projects. This guidance is clear that community benefit matters should be separate from, and not a material consideration in, the planning process. Outside of the DCO process, National Grid will work with stakeholders to understand the opportunity and delivery of this funding, in line with guidance.		Under discussion

3.3 Ecology and Biodiversity

The matters below are still under discussion between both parties.

Table 3.3 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Ecology and Biodiversity

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.3.1	Policy and legislation			
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.3.2	Study area			
3.3.3	Data sources			
3.3.4	Assessment methodology			
3.3.5	Survey Methodology			
3.3.6	Key parameters and assumptions			
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.3.7	Baseline conditions and receptors			
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.3.8	Embedded mitigation			
3.3.9	Standard mitigation			
3.3.10	Additional mitigation			
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
3.3.10	Construction effects			
3.3.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects			
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.3.12	Outline CoCP			
3.3.13	Outline LEMP			
Other matters as required				
3.3.14	Royden Fen CWS			
3.3.15	Waveney Valley Alternative (WVA)			
3.3.16	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)			

3.4 Air Quality

The matters below are still under discussion between both parties.

Table 3.4 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Air Quality

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.4.1	Policy and legislation			

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.4.2	Study area			
3.4.3	Data sources			
3.4.4	Assessment methodology			
3.4.5	Key parameters and assumptions			
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.4.6	Baseline conditions and receptors			
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.4.7	Embedded mitigation			
3.4.8	Standard mitigation			
3.4.9	Additional mitigation			
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.4.10	Construction effects			
3.4.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects			

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.4.12	Outline CoCP			
Other matters as required				

3.5 Noise and Vibration

The matters below are still under discussion between both parties.

Table 3.5 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Noise and Vibration

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.5.1	Policy and legislation			
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.5.2	Study area			
3.5.3	Data sources			
3.5.4	Assessment methodology			
3.5.5	Key parameters and assumptions			

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.5.6	Baseline conditions and receptors			
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.5.7	Embedded mitigation			
3.5.8	Standard mitigation			
3.5.9	Additional mitigation			
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.5.10	Construction effects			
3.5.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects			
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.5.12	Outline CoCP			
Other matters as required				

3.6 Health and Wellbeing

The matters below are still under discussion between both parties.

Table 3.6 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Health and Wellbeing

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.6.1	Policy and legislation			
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.6.2	Study area			
3.6.3	Data sources			
3.6.4	Assessment methodology			
3.6.5	Key parameters and assumptions			
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.6.6	Baseline conditions and receptors			
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.6.7	Embedded mitigation			
3.6.8	Standard mitigation			
3.6.9	Additional mitigation			

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.6.10	Construction effects			
3.6.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects			
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.6.12	Outline CoCP			
Other matters as required				

3.7 Historic Environment

The matters below are still under discussion between both parties.

Table 3.7 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to the Historic Environment

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.7.1	Policy and legislation			
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.7.2	Study area			
3.7.3	Data sources			

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
3.7.4	Assessment methodology			
3.7.7	Key parameters and assumptions			
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.7.8	Baseline conditions and receptors			
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.7.9	Embedded mitigation			
3.7.10	Standard mitigation			
3.7.11	Additional mitigation			
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.7.12	Construction effects			
3.7.13	Operational (and maintenance) effects			
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.7.14	Outline CoCP			
Other matters as required				
3.7.15	Written Schemes of Investigations (WSIs) for pre-consent geophysical			

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
	surveys and archaeological trial trenching.			
3.7.16	Draft Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI			
3.7.17	Programme for completion of archaeological fieldwork			

3.8 Landscape and Visual

The matters below are still under discussion between both parties.

Table 3.8 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Landscape and Visual

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.8.1	Policy and legislation			
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.8.2	Study area			
3.8.3	Data sources			
3.8.4	Assessment methodology			

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
	(including LVIA methodology and viewpoints)			
3.8.5	Key parameters and assumptions			
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.8.6	Baseline conditions and receptors			
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.8.7	Embedded mitigation			
3.8.8	Standard mitigation			
3.8.9	Additional mitigation			
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.8.10	Construction effects			
3.8.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects			
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.8.12	Outline CoCP			
3.8.13	Outline LEMP			
Other matters as required				

3.9 Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism

The matters below are still under discussion between both parties.

Table 3.9 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.9.1	Policy and legislation			
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.9.2	Study area			
3.9.3	Data sources			
3.9.4	Assessment methodology			
3.9.5	Key parameters and assumptions			
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.9.6	Baseline conditions and receptors			
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.9.7	Embedded mitigation			
3.9.8	Standard mitigation			
3.9.9	Additional mitigation			
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.9.10	Construction effects			

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
3.9.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects			
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.9.12	Outline CoCP			
Other matters as required				

3.10 Cumulative Effects

The matters below are still under discussion between both parties.

Table 3.10 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Cumulative Effects

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.10.1	Policy and legislation			
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.10.2	Study area			
3.10.3	Data sources			
3.10.4	Assessment methodology			
3.10.5	Key parameters and assumptions			

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.10.6	Baseline conditions and receptors			
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.10.7	Embedded mitigation			
3.10.8	Standard mitigation			
3.10.9	Additional mitigation			
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.10.10	Construction effects			
3.10.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects			
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.10.12	Outline CoCP			
Other matters as required				

3.11 Development Consent Order

The matters below are still under discussion between both parties.

Table 3.11 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Development Consent Order

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
3.11.1	DCO Requirements			
	DCO Wording			
	Other matters as required			

3.12 Other Matters

4. Confirmation of Agreement

The above SoCG is agreed between National Grid and South Norfolk District Council on the date specified below.

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid:

.....

Date:

.....

Signed for and on behalf of South Norfolk District Council:

.....

Date:

.....

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Reference
AIL	Abnormal Indivisible Loads
AIS	Air Insulated Switchgear
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BNG	Biodiversity Net Gain
CoCP	Code of Construction Practice
CSE	Cable Sealing End
CTMP	Construction Traffic Management Plan
DCO	Development Consent Order
EACN	East Anglia Connection Node
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
GI	Ground Investigation
GW	Gigawatt
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
NCR	National Cycle Route
NETS	National Electricity Transmission System
NPSs	National Policy Statements
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
PRoW	Public Right of Way
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SNDC	South Norfolk District Council
SPZ	Source Protection Zone
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

Abbreviation	Full Reference
Zol	Zone of Influence
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

National Grid plc
National Grid House,
Warwick Technology Park,
Gallows Hill, Warwick.
CV34 6DA United Kingdom

Registered in England and Wales
No. 4031152
nationalgrid.com